

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 SY-05 SCA-01 H-02 /017 W

----- 089964

O 311330Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6131

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FOR AF/W SMITH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, NI

SUBJECT: AMCIT ALLEGES ENTRY DENIED BY EMBASSY

REF: STATE 189685

1 ON TUESDAY, 17 FEBRUARY FOLLOWING REPORTS THAT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS PLANNED DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST AMERICAN AND BRITISH INSTALLATIONS, EMBASSY EXECUTED NORMAL RIOT PRECAUTIONS; (A) WARNING TO CIVILIAN COMMUNITY VIA ESTABLISHED WARDEN SYSTEM TO REMAIN AT HOME, INDOORS AND TO AVOID VICINITY OF CHANCERY; (B) RECALLED MSG DETACHMENT TO MAN DEFENSIVE POSITIONS THROUGHT EMBASSY AND ANNEX; (C) REMOVE ALL VEHICLES, OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE, FROM VICINITY AND (D) DISMISS ALL NONESSENTIAL AMERICAN AND LOCAL PERSONNEL.

2. AS BUSLOADS OF DEMONSTRATORS ARRIVED AND WERE OFF-LOADING NEAR MAIN GATE OF CHANCERY, BEFORE OUTBREAK OF ACTUAL VIOLENCE, SUBJECT AMCIT ACCOMPANIED BY TWO BLACKS OF UNKNOWN NATIONALITY REQUESTING AUDIENCE WITH ECON/COM'L ATTACHE FOR BUSINESS REASONS. MSG ON DUTY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS, INFORMED AMCIT THAT BECAUSE OF ANTICIPATED DEMONSTRATIONS THE EMBASSY WAS CLOSED FOR NORMAL BUSINESS AND ADVISED HIM TO LEAVE AREA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AS RECALLED BY MSG CPL. AND NCOIC, ALSO ON DUTY IN LOBBY, SUBJECT AMCIT AT NO REPEAT NO TIME INDICATED THAT HE WAS UNDER DURESS OR THAT HE DESIRED ENTRY FOR REASONS OF PERSONAL SAFETY.

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3. EMBASSY WAS IN NO MANNER INVOLVED WITH EXIT OF WCT TENNIS PLAYERS.

AS GUEST OF THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT, THEIR TRANSPORTATION OUT OF COUNTRY WAS ARRANGED AND PROVIDED SOLELY BY THE FMG.

4. IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS, MARINE GUARDS WERE INSTRUCTED TO SECURE BUILDINGS, DISMISS NON-ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL, DENY ACCESS TO FOREIGN NATIONALS AND ADVISE ALL VISITORS THAT EMBASSY WAS CLOSED FOR NORMAL BUSINESS AND ENCOURAGED THEM TO LEAVE AREA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. INCIDENT IS VIVIDLY REMEMBERED BY MARINE CPL. AND NCOIC WHO RECALL CONVERSATION WITH AMCIT. THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NO COMPLAINTS FROM SCORE OF OTHER AMCITS STRANDED IN LAGOS AT TIME OF INCIDENT.

5. EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT UNDER PREVAILING CIRCUMSTANCES, ACTIONS TAKEN DURING COURSE OF INCIDENT WERE BOTH PRUDENT AND WARRANTED AND THAT CRITICISM IS UNJUSTIFIED.

CAHILL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PHYSICAL SECURITY, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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